# EXHIBIT 1

#### Case 2:21-cv-12505-LJM-DRG ECF No. 1-1, PageID.7 Filed 10/25/21 Page 2 of 13



**Service of Process** Transmittal

10/04/2021

CT Log Number 540358282

Will Frederking, General Counsel HydroChemPSC TO:

900 Georgia Ave

Deer Park, TX 77536-2518

RE: **Process Served in Michigan** 

FOR: HydroChemPSC (Assumed Name) (Domestic State: DE)

HýdroChem LLC (True Name)

#### ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE OF ACTION: Re: Tyler, William Frederic // To: HydroChem LLC

**DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:** 

COURT/AGENCY: None Specified

Case # 21009745NO

NATURE OF ACTION: Personal Injury - Failure to Maintain Premises in a Safe Condition

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED: The Corporation Company, Plymouth, MI

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE: By Certified Mail on 10/04/2021 postmarked on 10/01/2021

**JURISDICTION SERVED:** Michigan

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE: None Specified ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S): None Specified

**ACTION ITEMS:** CT has retained the current log, Retain Date: 10/04/2021, Expected Purge Date:

10/09/2021

Image SOP

Email Notification, Will Frederking Will.Frederking@hydrochempsc.com Email Notification, Tashya Snyder tashya.snyder@hydrochempsc.com

Email Notification, Brittany Carazola brittany.carazola@hydrochempsc.com

REGISTERED AGENT ADDRESS: The Corporation Company

40600 Ann Arbor Road E

Suite 201

Plymouth, MI 48170

866-665-5799

SouthTeam2@wolterskluwer.com

The information contained in this Transmittal is provided by CT for quick reference only. It does not constitute a legal opinion, and should not otherwise be relied on, as to the nature of action, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any other information contained in the included documents. The recipient(s) of this form is responsible for reviewing and interpreting the included documents and taking appropriate action, including consulting with its legal and other advisors as necessary. CT disclaims all liability for the information contained in this form, including for any omissions or inaccuracies that may be contained therein.

#### 

Approved, SCAO	Original - Court 1st Copy- Defendant	2nd Copy - Plaintiff 3rd Copy -Return
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WAYNE COUNTY	summons	CASE NO
		Hon.Edward Ewell, Jr.
Court address : 2 Woodward Ave., Detroit MI 48226		Court telephone no.: 313-224-5195
Plaintiff's name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s) Tyler, William Frederick et. Al	v	Defendant's name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s). HydroChem PSC Resident Agent: The Corporation Company
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no	0	40600 Ann Arbor Rd. E.
Kanwarpreet Singh Khahra 80253 3200 Greenfield Rd Ste 260 Dearborn, MI 48120-1800		Suite 201 Plymouth, MI 48170
Instructions: Check the items below that apply to y your complaint and, if necessary, a case inventory a	ou and provide any require addendum (form MC 21). T	d information. Submit this form to the court clerk along with ne summons section will be completed by the court clerk.
family members of the person(s) who are the s (form MC 21) listing those cases.	ubject of the complaint. I have cases within the jurisdiction	he family division of the circuit court involving the family or ave separately filed a completed confidential case inventory of the family division of the circuit court involving the family
Civil Case		
complaint will be provided to MDHHS and (if ap There is no other pending or resolved civil action between these parties or other parties or ot	ve a right to recover expen- oplicable) the contracted he on arising out of the same t	ses in this case. I certify that notice and a copy of the
and been previously filed in 🔀 this court, 🔼 remo	oved to United States Distr	ct Court Eastern District of MI Court,
where it was given case number 20-003875-N 2:20-cv-1091		ludge <u>Edward Ewell , Jr.</u> Circuit  Denise Page Hood Federal
The action $oldsymbol{oldsymbol{\boxtimes}}$ remains $oldsymbol{\square}$ is no longer pend		-
Summons section completed by court clerk.	SUMMONS	
copy on the other party or take other lawful ac this state).	ons and a copy of the contion with the court (28 da	Michigan you are notified:  Inplaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a sys if you were served by mail or you were served outside may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the

- complaint.
- 4. If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Issue date Court clerk Expiration date\* 8/6/2021 11/5/2021 Angila Mayfield

Cathy M. Garrett- Wayne County Clerk.

\*This summons is invalid unless served on or before its expiration date. This document must be sealed by the seal of the court.



**SUMMONS** 

MCR 1.109(D), MCR 2.102(B), MCR 2.103, MCR 2.104, MCR 2.105

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF WAYNE

William Frederick Tyler, and Nancy Tyler

Plaintiffs.

VS.

Case No. 21-Hon.: -NO

HydroChem PSC,

Defendant.

TIMOTHY M. TAKALA (P72138)
KANWARPREET S. KHAHRA (P80253)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
3200 Greenfield, Suite 260
Dearborn, MI 48120
(313) 961-0130 Fax: 8178
ttakala@jeffmeyerslaw.com
kkhahra@jeffmeyerslaw.com

There is a pending civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence alleged in the complaint against United States Steel Corporation *et. al.*, which was filed in Wayne County Circuit Court on March 12, 2020 (Case No.: 20-003875-NO) and was removed to Eastern District of Michigan pursuant to 27 U.S.C. § 1332 (Case No.: 2:20-cv-10917-DPH-DRG).

/s/ Kanwarpreet S. Khahra

#### COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

NOW COMES the Plaintiffs, William Frederick Tyler and Nancy Tyler, by and through their counsel, Meyers Law, PLLC, and for their cause of action and Complaint, states the following:

1. The acts or omissions that form the basis for the Complaint occurred in County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

- The amount in controversy exceeds Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), exclusive of interest, costs, and attorney fees.
- 3. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Plaintiff William Frederick Tyler (hereinafter "Mr. Tyler") was a resident of the State of Alabama.
- 4. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Plaintiff Nancy Tyler (hereinafter "Ms. Tyler") was a resident of the State of Alabama.
- 5. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Defendant HydroChem PSC was a Michigan corporation with its principal place of business in Monroe, Michigan, doing continuous business in the County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

#### **FACTUAL STATEMENT**

- 6. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Mr. Tyler was employed by Songer Service & Co. (hereinafter "Songer") as a boilermaker.
- 7. US Steel contracted Songer to perform maintenance work at the US Steel's Great Lakes Plant on Zug Island (hereinafter "the plant").
- 8. On August 10, 2018, Mr. Tyler and his colleagues were removing the lower cone on the dustcatcher, a component of the D4 blast furnace. The dustcatcher is approximately 36 feet wide and 80 feet tall.
- 9. On average, the furnace steel making operation produced approximately 25 pounds of dust per ton of steel and D4 furnace produced 4500 tons of steel a day, which equates to 112,500 pounds of dust per day. All of this dust gets accumulated inside the dustcatcher.

- 10. Upon information and belief, there were other contractors apart from employees of Songer and Hydrochem who had worked, were working, or would eventually work on the dustcatcher.
- 11. On August 10, 2018, Songer's day shift crew attached three 10-ton chain falls to the lower cone of the dustcatcher to help facilitate the cone removal process.
- 12. Upon information and belief, US Steel employees knew that the dustcatcher was blocked and previous attempts to dump the dust from the dustcatcher had failed due to mechanical issues.
- 13. Upon information and belief, US Steel contracted Hydrochem to perform a Hydrojetting procedure and vacuum the dustcatcher. Hydrochem typically performed Hydrojetting procedure on a regular basis during normal furnace operations to help remove any blockage so that the dust could be extracted.
- 14. Upon information and belief, Hydrochem employees attempted to perform the Hydrojetting procedure on August 1 or 2. There are no records indicating that any dust was extracted pursuant to Hydrochem's contract with US Steel.
- 15. Hydrochem was negligent in performing its duties pursuant to its contractual obligation with US Steel.
- 16. Upon information and belief, US Steel employees knew that the dustcatcher had not been emptied and improperly communicated to Songer employees that it was safe to them to remove the lower cone.
- 17. US Steel employees improperly assumed and communicated to Songer employees that the materials inside the dustcatcher had solidified and would not come out during the cone removal process.

- 18. On August 10, 2018, at approximately 9:30 p.m., when Mr. Tyler and his colleagues cut the last bolt to remove the lower cone from the dustcatcher, they became engulfed in several hundred thousand tons of hot ash.
- 19. As a result of this incident, Mr. Tyler suffered serious life-changing injuries requiring extensive hospitalization.

#### **COUNT I - GENERAL NEGLIGENCE AS TO HYDROCHEM PSC**

Plaintiffs hereby restate, re-allege, and incorporate by reference each and every allegation set forth above and further state, the following:

- 20. At all times relevant to the Complaint, US Steel contracted Hydrochem PSC to perform a Hydrojetting procedure to remove blockage from the dustcatcher and vacuum the dustcatcher.
- 21. At all times relevant to the Complaint, HydroChem PSC's employees or agents owed a duty in connection with this occurrence to use ordinary care for safety of Mr. Tyler and others similarly situated.
- 22. In violation of its duty, employees or agents of Defendant HydroChem PSC failed to use ordinary care for safety of Mr. Tyler and others similarly situated in the manner set forth below:
  - Defendant's employees or agents in conjunction with US Steel employees or agents failed to perform Hydrojetting procedure and vacuum the dust from the dustcatcher pursuant to its scope of work;
  - Defendant's employees or agents failed to inform US Steel and Songer that the materials inside the dustcatcher were not solid;
  - c. Defendant's employees or agents failed to inform US Steel and/or Songer that it was unsafe to remove the lower cone

- until the blockage had been removed and the dustcatcher had been emptied;
- d. Other acts or omissions to be determined through course of discovery.
- 23. As a direct and proximate result of the aforementioned negligent acts or omissions of the employees or agents of the Defendant, Mr. Tyler suffered the following injuries and damages:
  - a. Vocal cord paralysis;
  - b. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
  - c. Injury to his lungs;
  - d. Pneumonia;
  - e. Traumatic eye injury;
  - f. First and second-degree skin burns on head, neck, back, wrists, legs;
  - g. Staph infection in blood and gall bladder;
  - h. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder;
  - i. Depression and anxiety;
  - j. Emotional distress;
  - k. Medical expenses, past, present, and future;
  - Denial of social pleasures and enjoyments, past, present, and future;
  - m. Lost wages, earnings and earning capacity, past, present, and future;
  - n. Future attendant care;
  - o. Necessary physical accommodations to living environment and vehicle, past, present, and future;
  - p. Other injuries and damages to be determined through the course of discovery.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs, respectfully requests this Honorable Court to enter a judgement against the Defendant in any amount in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, together with interest, costs, and attorney fees to which the Plaintiff is deemed to be entitled.

#### COUNT III - GROSS NEGLIGENCE AS TO HYDROCHEM PSC

Plaintiff hereby restates, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above and further state, the following:

- 24. Defendant knew or should have known that the dustcatcher was not empty, and, that it posed a safety hazard for Mr. Tyler and his colleagues if they removed the lower cone.
- 25. Defendant knew or should have known that the materials inside the dustcatcher were not solid and would fall if the cone was removed.
- 26. Defendant knew or should have known that the three ton-chain falls would not support the weight of the materials inside the dustcatcher as the average daily dust production was approximately 112,500 pounds and the dustcatcher had not been previously emptied due to blockage and other mechanical issues with the valves.
- 27. Defendant willfully disregarded that knowledge and failed to inform Mr. Tyler and his colleagues of the safety hazard.
- 28. As a direct and proximate result of the aforementioned negligent acts or omissions of the employees or agents of the Defendant, Mr. Tyler suffered the following injuries and damages:
  - a. Vocal cord paralysis;
  - b. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
  - c. Injury to his lungs;
  - d. Pneumonia;
  - e. Traumatic eye injury;
  - f. First and second-degree skin burns on head, neck, back, wrists, legs;
  - g. Staph infection in blood and gall bladder;
  - h. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder;
  - i. Depression and anxiety;
  - j. Emotional distress;
  - k. Medical expenses, past, present, and future;

- Denial of social pleasures and enjoyments, past, present, and future;
- m. Lost wages, earnings and earning capacity, past, present, and future;
- n. Future attendant care;
- Necessary physical accommodations to living environment and vehicle, past, present, and future;
- p. Other injuries and damages to be determined through the course of discovery.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, respectfully requests this Honorable Court to enter a judgement against the Defendant in any amount in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, together with interest, costs, and attorney fees to which the Plaintiff is deemed to be entitled.

### COUNT III – LOSS OF CONSORTIUM NANCY TYLER

Plaintiff hereby restates, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth above and further state, the following:

- 29. At all times relevant to the Complaint, Nancy Tyler was the lawfully wedded wife of Mr. Tyler.
- 30. As a direct and proximate cause of the Defendant's negligence and gross negligence as fully described above, Ms. Tyler has suffered loss of consortium damages, including the loss of her husband's society, companionship, and household services.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, respectfully requests this Honorable Court to enter a judgement against the Defendant in any amount in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, together with interest, costs, and attorney fees to which the Plaintiff is deemed to be entitled.

#### MEYERS LAW, PLLC

BY: /s/ Kanwarpreet S. Khahra
TIMOTHY M. TAKALA (P72138)
KANWARPREET S. KHAHRA (P80253)
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
3200 Greenfield, Suite 260
Dearborn, Michigan 48120
(313) 961-0130

DATED: August 6, 2021

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF WAYNE

William Frederick Tyler, and Nancy Tyler

Plaintiffs,

VS.

Case No. 21-

-NO

Hon.:

HydroChem PSC,

Defendant.

TIMOTHY M. TAKALA (P72138)
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kkhahra@jeffmeyerslaw.com

#### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

NOW COME the Plaintiffs, William Frederick Tyler and Nancy Tyler, by and through their counsel, Meyers Law, PLLC, and hereby demand a trial by jury in the above-captioned matter.

MEYERS LAW, PLLC

BY: /s/ Kanwarpreet S. Khahra
TIMOTHY M. TAKALA (P72138)
KANWARPREET S. KHAHRA (P80253)
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
3200 Greenfield, Suite 260
Dearborn, Michigan 48120
(313) 961-0130

DATED: August 6, 2021

#### REGISTERED MAIL



200. August 2005

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48170



U.S. POSTAGE >> PITICEY BOX

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## First Class Mail

LAW OFFICE 20042

JEFF MEYERS, PLLC
3200 GREENFIELD, SUITE 260
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN 48120–1802

HydroChem PSC R/A: The Corporation Company 40600 Ann Arbor Rd. E., Suite 201 Plymouth, MI 48170

REGISTERED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

120.126

473.121

470.18

EA10. TEPI

EA10.124

E410.1281

913.128V